



PARENT ATTENDANCE AT ORIENTATION MEETINGS

STUDENT AMBASSADOR PROGRAMS

Student Ambassadors attend four to six meetings for a total of 12 hours to help prepare for the privileges and responsibilities of traveling as a Student Ambassador. While meeting attendance is optional for parents, we strongly encourage attendance at the first and last meetings.

The last meeting features the Project Fair, which is a demonstration of the culmination of students' pre-travel learning as well as the Pinning Ceremony celebrated between parents and students. It also includes details regarding preparations before travel.

Your leadership team will provide you with the orientation meeting schedule and agendas for each meeting so that you may select the meetings you want to attend. Orientation meeting topics and activities will include:

- Role as a Student Ambassador
- Background of People to People
- Introduction to OnBoard—delegation specific website
- Civic awareness
- Citizenship activities
- Service projects
- High school and college credit information
- Assignment expectations
- Geography and history instruction
- Attire expectations/clothing guidelines
- Packing tips
- Introduction to the Travel Journal
- Teambuilding exercises
- Official visit by a civic representative
- Home stay information (if applicable)
- Behavior expectations
- Religion, art, and daily life of destination countries instruction
- Cultural etiquette
- Descriptive journal writing and expectations



HEALTH FORMS INFORMATION

STUDENT AMBASSADOR PROGRAMS

Every year, delegates travel on People to People programs with a variety of medical conditions, including asthma, allergies, depression, or diabetes. People to People is committed to helping every delegate participate in a program, regardless of health issues. The vast majority of medical situations do not prevent students from traveling, as long as students are able to self-regulate their conditions. People to People has staff on-hand dedicated to providing the means for students with health issues to travel, if at all possible.

In order for People to People to make accommodations for a student with health issues and ensure the safety of the student while traveling, the program office must be aware of the student's medical condition. People to People's health forms are designed to help each family make the program office aware of their child's medical needs.

It is of utmost importance that health forms are accurately completed and submitted in a timely manner in order for the program office to ensure the best support for your child. Please be assured that any medical issues that are disclosed will be kept in complete confidentiality, available only to leaders and the program office.

To ensure the program office has enough time to provide the best support for the delegate and the leader, health forms must be submitted to leaders no later than **January 15**.

We make every effort to reasonably accommodate the medical conditions of delegates while they are participating in their People to People programs. Some of our general requirements for delegates:

- We require that all delegates be able to care for their own recurring medical needs without supervision. A delegate must be able to independently handle any required medications, injections, or other treatments. Leaders will not hold or administer recurring medication or treatment.
- Delegates must bring enough prescription or over-the-counter medication to last the duration of the program.
- Delegates with medical alert jewelry must bring it and wear it.
- If dietary allergies are a concern, please understand we cannot control the contents of food products during travel. It is ultimately the responsibility of the delegate to inspect all food for ingredients related to the allergy.

If you have questions or information about your child's medical condition, please contact your delegation leader or the program office.



PASSPORTS AND VISAS

STUDENT AMBASSADOR PROGRAMS

Passports

Many delegates will need to apply for their first passport for this program. Delegates should begin as soon as possible—ideally, before January 2010, as the process can take a minimum of 4 weeks. **The earlier delegates apply for their passports, the better.** This includes any who need to renew their passports. If a delegate's passport expires earlier than six months after your program's return date, delegates must renew their passports.

U.S. Passports

Information regarding obtaining a U.S. passport is included in the Student Ambassador Protocol; however, you should advise families where to begin and what they can do to prepare.

- Delegates will need to have beforehand:
 - Proof of citizenship (such as an old passport, certified birth certificate, naturalization certificate, or affidavit from persons having personal knowledge of their birth (the affidavit must be accompanied by a statement from local authorities certifying that no birth record exists). *Please note: certified birth certificates can take up to 13 weeks to obtain.*
 - Four official passport-style photos, signed and taken within the previous six months. (Leaders will keep two of these photos for emergency overseas passport replacement purposes.) Retouched photographs are not acceptable. Photographs should be full face, printed on matte paper, and 2" x 2" in size. Detailed photograph requirements appear on the passport application. Passport pictures are offered by many post offices, photo/portrait studios, and copy shops.
 - Proof of identification Proof of identification may be established through a personal knowledge of the applicant when applying for a passport, or by one of the following documents: previous passport; naturalization certificate; driver's license; a government, business, or industrial identification card; or by a witness who has a valid driver's license and has known the applicant at least two years and who can establish the applicant's identity to the satisfaction of the clerk.

- Passport applications have to be signed in front of the passport acceptance agent.
- Delegates under the age of sixteen must have both parents' permission to obtain a passport. Sometimes this takes planning to get one parent's signature if that parent travels frequently or lives elsewhere.
- Families should contact the National Passport Information Center at 877.487.2778 for more information, to request forms, or to obtain the location of their nearest passport office. The same information and necessary forms can be found at **travel.state.gov**, or even at your local U.S. post office or public library. To see if your post office handles passport applications, go to the USPS website: **usps.com/passport/**.

Delegates must have their passports with three clear, readable photocopies turned in to delegation leaders by **March 1**. Having passports in-hand this early is necessary for several reasons, as some programs require a visa, and all travel requires confirmation of air and hotel reservations for which a passport is needed.

Once you have received delegates' passport photocopies, please confirm the following while inputting their passport information into the leader website:

- That the passport is signed correctly by the delegate—with given and family names, not nicknames. In some cases the parent may have signed the passport; that is acceptable if it is done correctly.
- That the passport expiration date meets the six-month requirement (passport must not expire within six months after your return date).
- That their citizenship matches the country that issued the passport. (Entering correct citizenship is very important to the program office. This information is used to identify non-U.S. passport holders *who may need visa assistance*.)

It is a good idea to point out to your delegation that any damage, markings (such as crossing things out or writing anything in besides the signature), or permanent alterations (laminating, adding stickers, or tearing out pages, etc.) will void a passport and it cannot be used for travel. Any delegate or leader with a passport that is damaged in any of the ways above will need to have it replaced.

ENTERING PASSPORT INFORMATION INTO THE LEADER WEBSITE

Several additional fields are now required when entering passport information for delegates and leaders on the leader website. All of the information listed below should be found on the photo/personal information page of the passport:

- **Passport Number:** On most passports, the passport number is found on the upper right-hand corner of the page, and is labeled as such. For U.S. passports, this is a nine-digit number. Some countries issue passport numbers that include letters as well as numbers in varying lengths.
- **Expiration Date:** On most passports, this is found near the date of issue; on U.S. passports, it is listed second from bottom next to photo. This date should be entered in the mm/dd/yyyy format.
- **Issue Date:** On most passports, this is found near the date of expiration; on U.S. passports it is listed third from bottom next to photo. On some non-U.S. issued passports, the date may be handwritten and found elsewhere in the passport with the consular stamp or seal. The date should be entered in the mm/dd/yyyy format.
- **Country of Birth as Listed on Passport:** This is usually labeled as such.
- **Passport Authority:** This is the official entity within the country of issue's government that actually issued the passport. For U.S. passports, it may simply be listed as "National Passport Center" or "United States Department of State," or it may be a specific passport office, such as "Chicago Passport Agency." For non-U.S. passports, this may be labeled as "Issuer," "Issuing Office," or "Authority" and may just be the name of the country or the name of the consulate located within the United States.
- **Country of Issue as Listed on Passport:** This is the country that issued the passport. Even if it was issued by a consulate based in the U.S., the correct data would still be the country represented by the passport and not physically where it was issued.

Non-U.S. Passports

Delegates holding non-U.S. passports participate successfully in our programs every year with citizenships from around the globe. These delegates also represent the United States as either their adopted country or chosen country of residence, and demonstrate an aspect of the People to People mission beginning at home. They are a welcome addition to any delegation.

Extra preparation and responsibility does fall onto these families. Most non-U.S. passports will need additional travel documents such as a visa and/or proof of U.S. status (i.e. Permanent Resident Card, U.S. visa, or immigration documentation).

If a delegate will not be traveling on a U.S. passport, that delegate will need a valid passport issued from the proper country of citizenship. A non-U.S. passport holder who resides in the U.S. must apply for (or renew) his or her passport at a consulate within the U.S. that represents the correct country of citizenship. **Even those delegates with Permanent Resident Cards will require a valid passport from their country of citizenship.**

Note: Delegates will need to travel with the original Permanent Resident (Green) Card or U.S. Visa-issued re-entry documentation.

For those delegates who already hold either a U.S. or non-U.S. passport, confirmation is needed that their passports are valid six months beyond the program's end, approximately February 2011 for most programs.

Visas

Visas for Foreign Nationals

All participants who are foreign nationals (i.e., hold a passport from a country other than the U.S. or Canada), including leaders, must obtain their own visas for travel. Should a delegate withdraw due to an inability to acquire the necessary visas, standard withdrawal fees apply. Such delegates are not eligible for a full refund. Also note that the Delegate Protection Plan does not cover travel delay, interruption, or cancellation costs due to visa issues.

Therefore, it is very important that delegates who will be traveling on non-U.S. passports be identified as early as possible and that their information on the leader website reflects their correct citizenship.

Important to Note: Non-U.S. passport holders who are identified as such in our system receive assistance and documentation to aid in the visa application process. Families who have registered and mistakenly identified themselves as a citizen of the United States when their delegate really holds a passport from another country may not receive the assistance they need. Please update the program office and/or the leader website when you see a discrepancy between travel documents or the family's situation and our records.

A good question to ask delegates, in order to find any that may hold a passport other than one issued by the United States, is "Do you have a Green Card?" Any delegate who answers "Yes" to this question is a non-U.S. passport holder. Update the leader website with their correct citizenship information and notify the program office if you discover you have Green Card holders in your delegation. Often, since they have been in the U.S. for a long period of time, Green Card holders say they are citizens, when in actuality they are not yet eligible to obtain a U.S. passport.

To establish their visa needs and initiate the application process, delegates should contact the consular agents nearest to their residence that reflect the countries included on the program. This may be only one country/consulate, or it could be up to seven countries/consulates. It is important that each be contacted. From there, the process is defined by the visa requirements of the specific consulates and the specific circumstances of the delegate/applicant.

Please Note: Once air itineraries have been released, non-U.S. passport holders need to review their flight schedule and ascertain if there will be any transit visa requirements. Transit visas may be required if a flight stops in a country not included in the program. Delegates or leaders in this situation would need to contact the consulate of the country being transited through to inquire into the visa requirements

Due to international cooperation for the safety of children, many consulates now request information during the visa application process regarding the adults who will be traveling with a minor. This information is usually a name, address, and passport number. Please assist any delegates who may need such information for this purpose. Currently, United Kingdom's visa application process requires assistance from two delegation leaders. Those leaders on programs that include Great Britain will receive additional information when any non-U.S. passport holders in their delegation are identified as needing a visa to the U.K.

Visas for U.S. and Canadian Citizens

In addition to the passport, some countries require American and Canadian travelers to obtain a visa. Instructions describing how to complete visa applications for programs to China will be sent to each delegation leader by March 2010. Please read the visa procedure instructions and follow them carefully. Visa fees for U.S. and Canadian citizens who are U.S. residents are included in the program tuition.

Things To Know

Australia: Visas for Australia for U.S. and Canadian passport holders are electronic and are processed with your air reservation, utilizing the data entered on the leader website for each delegate's and delegation leader's passport.

China: Visas for China destinations require physical processing by country consulates and a physical signature of the individual applicant on the visa application. You will receive a visa procedure sheet and visa application packets that detail the process specific to your program three months prior to your program's scheduled departure date.

Three important things to note in advance if you are leading a delegation to China:

- The visa application process requires the actual valid passport to be physically sent to our visa service who then takes it to the consulate as part of the visa application process. Leaders are required to ship the passports to the visa service via a traceable shipping service for safety.
- Passports must be valid six months beyond the completion date of the program or a visa will not be issued. This is a requirement of these countries' governments and no exception of any degree (not even one day) is allowed.
- The visa application will require one additional passport-style photo beyond the two such photos delegates are required to turn in prior to travel. (Be advised, each Chinese consulate in the United States has specific passport-style photo requirements for the visa application, so have delegates wait to have this photo taken until leaders get the most recent, up-to-date passport-style photograph requirements, so that delegates do not have to have the photo re-done if theirs ends up being different. This is advised to avoid their visa application being delayed at the consulate.)
- China consulates process visa applications in the United States based on state of jurisdiction. This means that leaders will ship visa applications to the visa service in the city of the consulate that holds jurisdiction over your delegation's state of residence.

Please note: For U.S. and Canadian passport holders who are on programs that require a visa, the same withdrawal policy applies as for non-U.S. passport holders who require a visa. Should delegates withdraw, or not travel, due to failure to acquire the necessary visas, they are subject to the standard withdrawal fees and not eligible for a full refund. It is important for leaders, delegates, and families to respond and follow through with any visa instructions they receive.

Further Questions?

Check the leader website and review the Passport and Visa FAQ. If your question remains unanswered, please contact the program office for assistance.



ACADEMIC CREDIT INFORMATION

STUDENT AMBASSADOR PROGRAMS

THE BASICS

Name of course: Ambassadorial Studies

How much credit? One high school semester elective credit, 120 equivalent classroom hours

What subject area? Social Studies (elective)

Who is eligible? All Student Ambassadors going into grades 9 through 12 at time of travel

- The Washington School of World Studies will send a transcript to each student who receives a passing grade. Students can give this to their high schools to obtain the credit.
- It is up to each individual school whether or not the elective credit is accepted.
- For more information, visit the Washington School of World Studies website at schoolofworldstudies.org

Note: There is no need to sign up or enroll to receive high school credit. All Student Ambassadors entering grades 9 through 12 are automatically enrolled.

How Do I Get Credit?

- Attend all meetings (you will need to make up any you miss).
- Complete all pre-travel and travel assignments. Guidelines and expectations for each will be provided with the assignment.
- Participate in all pre-travel and travel activities and assignments, including completing the research project and travel journal assignments.
- Uphold Ambassadorial behavior standards during both the pre-travel and travel phases as defined by the Standards for Success.
- Leaders evaluate all students with a Pass or No Pass for both the pre-travel and travel phases of the program and send this credit report to the Washington School of World Studies. This usually occurs within six weeks of returning from travel.

Eastern Washington University (EWU)

College Credit Information

Applies to students in grades 7 through 12 only.

- A variety of courses are offered to students in grades 7 through 12 from the Eisenhower Center at Eastern Washington University. Course requirements are determined by the course and number of credits being earned.
- Students enroll directly with EWU and pay tuition to the Eisenhower Center at EWU.
- For 2009, the cost per credit is \$158.
- For more information, visit EWU's Eisenhower Center website at ewu.edu/x6309.xml.



WHAT PARENTS WANT TO KNOW...

STUDENT AMBASSADOR PROGRAMS

Frequently Asked Questions From Parents

I'm having trouble making my payments for my child's tuition. Do I have other options?

We offer easy monthly credit or debit card installment payments—please contact our Delegate Support Team at 800.669.7882 for more information.

What happens if my child gets ill overseas? Who's going to take care of my child?

A leader will stay behind and care for a student who is too sick to participate. A leader will also accompany a sick or injured student to a clinic or hospital if necessary and work with the program office to communicate with you.

How does People to People verify security in a country before you get there?

- People to People has retained an international safety and security organization that helps us monitor and react to situations around the world.
- People to People has an internal task force made up of senior managers who continually assess the international climate.
- People to People is briefed on international warnings by the U.S. State Department. If a travel warning is issued for a specific country, People to People will respond immediately by rescheduling or modifying the itinerary, and by moving the destination to a safe location as necessary.

Is it safe to go to _____ ? (any city or country)

People to People relies on the advice of any number of organizations, including the U.S. State Department, the Federal Aviation Administration, the National Transportation Safety Board, and an international safety and security organization to determine if any location is unsafe. People to People will not send a delegation to a destination that is deemed unsafe.

How can we stay in touch with our children when they are traveling?

- People to People provides a day-by-day schedule that includes the phone contact information of each place they stay. There is limited time for communication each day due to the busy nature of the programs. The best times to call tend to be early in the morning and late in the evening. People to People recommends no more than one phone call per week.
- Emails from internet cafes are also a possibility.
- People to People provides a 24-hour operation center at the program office, monitoring and supporting the programs throughout the summer. For genuine emergencies you can always contact the program office.

How do you supervise students during the day? Is there any time that my child will be unsupervised?

- The leadership team provides an average ratio of 1:10 (leader to student). In addition, a delegation manager travels with the delegation to enhance supervision.
- Delegation leaders regularly "count off" to ensure the presence of each student.
- Curfews and bed checks are maintained throughout the program.
- Students participate as a supervised group during almost all activities.
- Supervision during free time depends upon the age group:
 - a. K-8 students are always supervised by a leader.
 - b. High school students may spend free time in small groups, but must have their plan approved by their leader. During free time, students are never allowed to depart from the group individually.

What if my child loses something?

If your child loses something, we'll do our best to try to find it. However, this may not be possible due to the tight schedule and program logistics. Basic items, such as toiletries and clothes, can be purchased overseas. People to People recommends that students not take sentimental or expensive items.

Will my child be safe in the hotel room at night?

With over forty years of experience supervising students around the world, People to People has learned that if delegates follow the curfew and hotel policies, they will be safe in the hotel room at night. Furthermore, hotels have security measures in place to ensure students' safety, and leaders perform routine room checks.

How is rooming organized? Will my child be alone in a room?

- Our policy states a child will never room alone.
- Leaders work with the hotel staff to rotate the rooming list during the course of the program to provide students with the opportunity to meet other delegates as well as to prevent formation of cliques.
- Students are separated by gender, with two to four per room.
- Students have their own beds and each room has a bathroom.

How do you guarantee safety in a home stay?

The safety of our students is our number one priority. People to People has several precautions and procedures in place to ensure the well-being of students. Student Ambassadors are provided with telephone numbers for their leaders and an international 24-hour toll free number for the program office. They are also given a code word to use if they feel uncomfortable during their home stays and do not feel free to speak openly.

Does People to People do background checks?

Background checks are not a normal practice overseas, and in fact, are illegal in most countries. To ensure a safe and welcoming environment for our Student Ambassadors, we enlist the assistance of local home-stay coordinators who work closely with the potential host families, communicating our standards, evaluating the home environment and members of a potential host family.

Why can't we be guaranteed that our child will be staying with another delegate during the home stay?

Some home stay families don't have enough room to host more than one delegate in their homes. When they do, People to People places delegates in pairs or groups in the home stay.

Can you give us names, phone numbers, and email addresses for the host family that my child will be staying with? Can we call or email them?

Due to last-minute circumstances and organization of the host family list, it's not possible to know beforehand which family your child may be matched with.

Can you guarantee a non-smoking home stay? How do you work with allergies and these types of requests when placing them?

We can request, but cannot guarantee, a non-smoking home. Allergies and other medical needs should be filled out completely prior to departure on a student's health form. Our coordinators send this information to the home-stay coordinators so they have the information on file when making home-stay placements.

What if a terrorist action or bombing takes place in one of the areas we are supposed to visit?

- The safety of the delegates is People to People's number one priority.
- People to People only conducts programs in places we believe are safe for the Ambassadors.
- In the case of an incident, People to People maintains a response plan that would be activated immediately to confirm the safety of our delegates.
- People to People has a well-rehearsed crisis plan to take care of every student should something arise. The current plan provides that within one hour, we can contact a family and give the location and status of the child.
- If something does occur during travel, the delegation will return to the hotel and remain there until conditions are deemed safe.
- In consultation with People to People's government authorities (U.S. State Department, FAA, and National Transportation Safety Board), and overseas coordinators, People to People would determine what, if any, activities or destinations need to be modified to ensure delegates' safety and security. If warranted, the itinerary can be adjusted on short notice to bypass an area that is no longer considered safe to visit.

**Also consider the Safety FAQ-Response listed on our website:*

- We have retained an international safety and security organization that helps us monitor and react to situations around the world.
- We have an internal task force of senior managers who continually assess the international climate and specific situations, and implement program changes as needed.
- We are briefed about international travel warnings by the State Department. If a travel warning is issued for a specific country, we respond immediately by rescheduling or modifying the itinerary and by moving delegates to a safe location as necessary.
- In every country where we travel, we work with top-level coordinators who assess their local situations. This network of coordinators briefs us on new safety precautions implemented by countries. For example: We know that at the Tower of London, all individuals pass through a security inspection before entering.
- We provide extensive pre-travel preparation for both our leaders and our delegates.
- While delegates are traveling, we maintain a trained 24-hour response team at our office to respond to any emergencies or situations that may arise during travel.

What if my child is somehow separated from the group?

- All delegates are given instruction prior to departure for what they should do if they find themselves separated from the delegation.
- Students will be instructed to stay where they are should they realize they have been separated from the group.
- The leader will backtrack and reconnect with the student.
- In addition, students have an emergency contact number on their lanyard, which is worn at all times throughout the program.
- Fortunately, this happens very infrequently, and we have found that our lost-and-found procedure results in the student being rejoined with the delegation.

Does my child need any vaccinations prior to travel?

None of the current destinations require any additional vaccinations. However, it is important for all students to be current on their childhood vaccination schedule. Essentially, it is best to rely on your family doctor. The Center for Disease Control international website may also be referenced for the latest updates.

Do you use public transportation?

The majority of transportation overseas is by means of private, chartered motor coach. In some areas, local public transportation is used. We find that this contributes to the cultural experience and in some cases is the best means to reach a certain destination (i.e., an old city center).

Is it a safety issue for the students to be wearing polo shirts? Does it single them out?

American students tend to be easy to spot during international travel. Polo shirts are worn at particular times during the program, namely travel days, and are an invaluable benefit from a safety point of view. They permit the leaders and delegation managers to easily identify the Student Ambassadors during the program.

Are all leaders CPR certified?

Yes. All leaders are required to have current CPR certification to travel as a leader.

Who are the delegation managers and coach drivers?

Delegation managers are employees of our overseas office who coordinate travel accommodations such as meals, transportation, and entry to cultural events. As locals, they are knowledgeable about the countries and areas we visit. They undergo a thorough training program similar to that of our teacher leaders. People to People uses fully licensed coach drivers who are contracted in the country being visited.

When there is only one leader supervising a group of students at the airport, how can you ensure my child's safety?

If a leader gets sick or has another problem that takes him or her away from the group, we would call an experienced leader from the area who is not traveling, such as the area director, and have them come to the airport to assist the group. The program office also assists in case of any travel-related issues that arise while the smaller group is traveling to meet with the rest of its delegation. People to People maintains a 24-hour call center to assist delegations during the travel season.

What if the leader gets sick or has another problem that takes him or her away from the group?

If a leader gets sick or has another problem that takes him or her away from the group, we would call an experienced leader from the area who is not traveling, such as the area director, and have them come to the airport to assist the group. The program office also assists in case of any travel-related issues that arise while the smaller group is traveling to meet with the rest of its delegation. People to People maintains a 24-hour call center to assist delegations during the travel season.

If a leader gets sick or has an emergency and has to leave the group, who will take the leader's place? How is that individual selected?

Sometimes leaders can be replaced by substitute teacher-leaders. Sometimes members of the People to People office staff who are traveling with different programs are called in to replace a leader who has to leave the group. This person is selected based on location and how soon this leader can join the delegation.

Who makes the decision to cancel a program or change an itinerary? What criteria are used?

- A team of managers at the People to People program office monitors all programs in consultation with government authorities and overseas coordinators. They will make the decision to cancel or modify an itinerary if necessary to ensure the safety and well-being of a delegation.
- 99% of modifications are related to safety (i.e., bad weather on the Great Barrier Reef).
- If People to People cannot guarantee safety or quality for an activity, they will cancel it and replace it with a suitable substitute.
- If People to People cannot replace it with a suitable substitute, they'll refund accordingly.

**Also consider the Safety FAQ-Response listed on our website:*

Similarly, if it is advised that we avoid a particular destination, excursion, or event on the itinerary, or if a location is temporarily unavailable (such as a museum closure), we will arrange comparable, alternative activities to the best of our abilities and with full regard for the well-being of each participant. Our in-house travel team and worldwide network of travel experts allow us to foresee situations and respond quickly to ensure that our programs remain high-quality, enjoyable experiences.

What training are leaders given to deal with an emergency or crisis?

All leaders are certified with online leader training, including courses in safety and handling emergencies and crises. Furthermore, leaders have read and carry a Travel Handbook that guides them in managing emergencies and crises. Leaders are also provided with 24-hour support from the program office in order to help them in the case of an emergency.

If my child is injured during the program, will People to People fly me and my spouse to pick up our child?

The safety of an injured or ill student is paramount, and People to People will work to ensure appropriate medical care is obtained as quickly as possible. The delegate protection plan provides coverage that will, under certain circumstances, cover the expense of a family member to fly overseas to join an injured delegate. An example of such a circumstance would be if the student had been in the hospital for two or more full-clinic days. The plan also includes coverage under specific circumstances for delegates to be returned home on an accompanied basis once they have recovered.

Our religious faith requires that we refrain from having a blood transfusion. If injured, how will you ensure my child is not subject to a blood transfusion?

The safety of our delegates is our number one priority. We cannot guarantee that a transfusion will not take place. Furthermore, overseas healthcare providers may be bound by local mandates to provide treatment, including a blood transfusion.

Can I have a cell phone number for the leaders?

A delegation leader and the delegation managers always have a cell phone, but this line is strictly reserved for emergency calls. As a result, we do not share this number. True emergencies should be directed to the program office.

My child is a very picky eater (e.g., eats only French fries). How will you handle this?

We strive to provide three well-balanced meals each day. We will not force a child to eat anything. Delegates are responsible for overseeing their own eating habits. We watch this like any good parent would, but we cannot guarantee any specific diet. We can usually work with vegetarians and those with specific food allergies.

If there is serious concern about the student's ability to eat a proper nutritious meal due to personal preferences, the student may wish to consider waiting a year to participate in the program.



ONBOARD

Is there any way for me to know what my child is doing each day outside of the itinerary? Are parents given website updates regarding the whereabouts and doings of their children?

Time outside of the itinerary (free time and sleep) varies from day to day and depends upon a number of factors (e.g., opportunities and timing). Therefore, People to People usually does not provide a day-to-day update on non-itinerary activities. Regardless, parents are encouraged to watch the website and become acquainted with OnBoard.

How will my child get laundry cleaned? Who will launder it and how frequently will it be done?

Students are responsible for doing their own laundry during the program. Access to laundry facilities is abundant on South Pacific programs, but it is less available on other programs. Therefore, we recommend that students bring enough underwear and socks to last them the duration of the program. If they chose not to, they must be prepared to wash and hang dry overnight. We recommend against jeans as they do not dry overnight.

My child is bringing a cell phone. Will it work everywhere the delegation travels? Can it be used at any time?

Let the leader know if you are sending a cell phone. Leaders make the final decision on when a student can use a cell phone. The preferred time is before breakfast or after bed checks. Like all electronics, we will limit its use in order to encourage interaction and learning. We cannot guarantee that your child's cell phone will work. We suggest asking your cell phone provider these questions or renting a cell phone from companies such as CellHire, who provide international cell phones for rental.

When will the delegation meet with students their own ages for People to People activities?

Interaction with peers depends upon the schedule of activities and the itinerary. Some itineraries allow for a school visit. Some itineraries provide other organized activities.

What kind of interaction will the delegation have with local citizens?

During the course of travels, students will likely meet many locals who are curious to learn about them, why they're visiting, where they are going, etc. People to People moments occur as students will them. A number of activities are provided that connect students with people of other cultures. Many delegates will have memorable encounters during visits to museums, galleries, theaters, restaurants, and of course, home stays.

Can we be assured my child will receive kosher meals throughout the program?

Unfortunately, People to People cannot guarantee kosher meals.

What if my daughter starts her period for the first time while on the program?

This is quite common, especially with fifth- and sixth-grade girls. Leaders are trained to be prepared for this and to deal with it compassionately and privately to avoid causing any embarrassment. Instruct your daughter to talk to one of the leaders if this occurs and assure her they will assist her confidentially. Also, help your daughter pack feminine supplies and instruct her on procedures for handling this during travel. The leader will provide support and instruction, but it's best if your daughter is well-prepared before travel.

